



NEWS RELEASE

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THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL ANNOUNCES NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR

~ Hildreth leads troop operations statewide ~

TALLAHASSEE- The Florida Highway Patrol achieves a historic milestone today as the first female lieutenant colonel assumes her new position and duties. Florida Highway Patrol Director, Col. David Brierton, announced today that Capt. Kelly Hildreth is the new deputy director of field operations. As she takes on her new position within the Patrol, she will lead patrol operations throughout the sunshine state.

“During her 16-year career with the Patrol, Lt. Col. Hildreth has demonstrated the skills and abilities necessary to be an effective leader. She is ready for the next step in her career, which requires a great amount of self-initiative and responsibility,” said Brierton. “I have full confidence in her abilities to lead the Patrol in its day to day responsibility of enforcing the laws related to highway safety and security in Florida. Lt. Col. Hildreth is charged with leading field operations within the Patrol with an eye toward meeting our agency vision of a Safer Florida.”

Hildreth was selected from a pool of more than 50 applicants from a nationwide search. Her previous assignment was at FHP headquarters in Tallahassee, where she was the coordinator of the office of professional compliance and emergency operations. She began her career in Troop L, Palm Beach County as trooper after graduating from the 89th Recruit Class. Since then, she has moved up through the ranks, spending most of her career in Tallahassee.

Hildreth is a graduate of the University of Central Florida and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov, follow us on Twitter @[FDHSMV](https://twitter.com/FDHSMV) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FDHSMV).

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